

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for determining a
2 composite measure indicative of the presence of dietary antioxidants in a liquid
3 sample at room temperature comprising the steps of:

4 providing a liquid sample containing dietary material or a biological
5 fluid to be tested;

6 contacting the liquid sample with an aqueous solution of elemental
7 iodine and an iodophor at room temperature to form a
8 mixture; and

9 measuring ~~a change~~ an increase in a concentration of iodide ions in
10 the mixture at room temperature wherein the ~~change~~
11 increase represents the composite measure of the presence
12 of dietary antioxidants in the dietary material or the biological
13 fluid.

1 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the iodophor
2 is polyvinylpyrrolidone.

1 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of
2 measuring measures an increase in the concentration of iodide ions by means of
3 an ion selective electrode.

[Kindly cancel Claim 4 without prejudice]

5. (Previously Cancelled)

1 6. (Currently Amended) A method for determining ~~a composite~~
2 ~~measure indicative of the characteristics of~~ relative amounts of simple soluble
3 dietary antioxidants versus complex tannins in an aqueous liquid sample at room
4 temperature comprising the steps of:

5 providing an aqueous liquid sample containing dietary material or a
6 biological fluid to be tested;

7 contacting the sample with an aqueous solution of elemental iodine
8 and polyvinylpyrrolidone at room temperature to form a mixture;

9 measuring ~~an increase in~~ a concentration of iodide ions at room
10 temperature in the mixture at a plurality of time points over a
11 time period after the contacting step by means of an iodide
12 selective electrode; ~~wherein the increase represents the~~
13 ~~composite measure of the characteristics dietary antioxidants in~~
14 ~~the dietary material or the biological fluid~~

15 measuring a first slope of increase of the iodine ions over a time
16 period of about one minute from the contacting step;

17 measuring a second slope of increase of the iodine ions over a time
18 period from one minute from the contacting step to at least
19 about five minutes from the contacting step; and

20 comparing the first slope with the second slope whereby the first slope
21 is representative of simple soluble antioxidants and the second
22 slope is representative of complex tannins.

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Kindly enter new claims 7-9.

1 7. (New) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said liquid
2 sample is a dietary material.

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Contd
3 8. (New) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said liquid
sample is a biological fluid.

1 9. (New) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the biological
2 fluid is urine.
